

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Donald J. Briggs  
Serial Number: 10/791,517 Art Unit: 3634  
Filed: March 2, 2004 Examiner: H. Thompson  
For: Magnetic Top For Ladders and Method of Construction Thereof

## In the claims

A statement of the status of claims follows:

1. (currently amended) A ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] comprising:
  - a) a formed ~~top head~~ piece having a flat top, having an underside, and at least one side, extending downward from said flat top; and
  - b) a pair of support members, being oppositely disposed, each of said pair of support members having a top end, the top end of each of said pair of support members being pivotably attached to said formed head piece; and
  - c) at least one magnetic strip, fixedly attached to said formed [[top]] ~~headpiece~~.
2. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is formed of a thin sheet.
3. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is formed of:
  - a) a quantity of magnetic powder; and
  - b) a means for encapsulating said magnetic powder into said formed [[top]] ~~headpiece~~.
4. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is fixedly attached to said formed [[top]] ~~headpiece~~ by means of an adhesive.

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5. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~<sup>[[s]]</sup> of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is fixedly attached to said formed ~~[[top]]~~ headpiece by means of encapsulating the at least one magnetic strip in a resinous material.

6. ((currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~<sup>[[s]]</sup> of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is fixedly attached to the underside of said flat top of said formed head piece.

7. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~<sup>[[s]]</sup> of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is fixedly attached to the at least one side.

8. (currently amended) A ~~magnetic top for ladder~~<sup>[[s]]</sup> comprising:

- a) a generally rectangular ~~top~~ headpiece, having an underside;
- b) four sides, attached to said generally rectangular ~~top~~ head piece and extending vertically downward therefrom, forming a box having an open bottom; and
- c) a pair of support members, being oppositely disposed, each of said pair of support members having a top end, the top end of each of said pair of support members being pivotably attached to said generally rectangular head piece; and
- d) at least one magnetic strip, fixedly attached to the underside of said generally rectangular ~~top~~ headpiece.

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9. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 8 further comprising a second magnetic strip, fixedly attached to the underside of said generally rectangular top head piece.

10. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 8 further comprising a plurality of magnetic strips, one of said plurality of magnetic strips being fixedly attached to each of said four sides of said box magnetic top for ladders.

11. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 10 wherein the magnetic strips are formed of a thin, flexible sheet.

12. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 10 wherein the magnetic strips are formed of:

- a) a quantity of magnetic powder; and
- b) a means for encapsulating said magnetic powder into said generally rectangular top headpiece.

13. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the magnetic strips are fixedly attached to said generally rectangular top head piece by means of an adhesive.

14. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 10 wherein the magnetic strips are fixedly attached to said generally rectangular top head piece by means of encapsulating the magnetic strips in a resinous material.

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15. (currently amended) A method of forming a magnetic top, for ladders having a head member and a pair of supports, pivotably attached to said head member, and further wherein said head member forms in a mold having a plurality of formed channels therein, comprising the steps of:

- a) pouring a quantity of magnetic powder into each of said plurality of formed channels; and
- b) filling the mold with a quantity of moldable material to encapsulate the quantity of magnetic powder.

16. (original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of:

- a) before pouring a quantity of magnetic powder into each of said plurality of formed channels, coating the mold with a quantity of molded material, such that said quantity of magnetic powder is placed between two layers of molded material after step b is completed.

17. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the moldable material is selected from the group of: plastic, fiberglass, or resin.

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